

the ground via resistor 346 and switch 345. Thus, the resistance value of resistor 346 controls the rate of discharge of capacitances 312 and 314.

[0025] Still further, as shown in FIG. 3a, capacitor 334 is coupled to the gate of MOSFET 310 and helps to control the rate of discharge of capacitances 312 and 314, because as shown in FIG. 3a, capacitor 334 is coupled to resistor 346 in parallel with parasitic capacitances 312 and 314, and as such, when charged, provides a voltage potential that must flow through resistor 346 to ground, thereby affecting, for example, slowing, the rate of discharge of capacitances 312 and 314.

[0026] Furthermore, switch 323 may be controlled by control circuitry to control the temporal application of voltage of voltage supply 322 to MOSFET 310. For example, control circuitry may be configured to cause switch 323 to couple voltage supply 322 to MOSFET 310 earlier than otherwise to reduce the overall voltage stress on MOSFET 310 and reduce the relative resistance of resistor 311 (the drain-source resistance).

[0027] FIGS. 3b-3e are equivalent circuit diagrams to system 300a of FIG. 3a at different temporal stages of operation of system 300a. Furthermore, FIG. 4 provides a graph 400 of the voltages across capacitances 312, 314, and 316 at different temporal stages of operation of system 300a, and will be discussed in conjunction with FIGS. 3a-3e.

[0028] System 300b of FIG. 3b is the equivalent circuit to system 300a when voltage supply 322 is disconnected from system 300a by switch 323 (or the voltage regulator 105 is turned off via control circuitry 102 as shown in 200), control voltage 342 is not shorted to ground by switch 345 and resistor 344, and MOSFET 310 is going to off (due to the application of control voltage 342). This state is illustrated in FIG. 4 from 10-20 milliseconds (mS). In this state, charge from control voltage 342 flows through resistances 344 and 346 to charge parasitic capacitances 312 and 314, and a corresponding voltage is applied to parasitic capacitances 312 and 314 as illustrated by the rising voltages 313 and 315 of graph 400. Control voltage 342 is disjoint with regard to parasitic capacitance 316 and there is not voltage potential formed by control voltage 342 with regard to parasitic capacitance 316, and therefore voltage 317 is zero, as illustrated from 10-20 milliseconds of graph 400. The combination of resistors 344 and 346 slow the increase of voltage 313 (gate-source voltage), and pull down the voltage value of control voltage 342, thereby helping to reduce voltage 313 over the illustrated 10-20 milliseconds of graph 400.

[0029] System 300c of FIG. 3c is the equivalent circuit to system 300a when voltage supply 322 is connected to system 300a by switch 323 (more particularly, the source of MOSFET 310) and control voltage 342 is not shorted to ground by switch 345 (and therefore control voltage 342 is applied to the gate of MOSFET 310, ensuring that MOSFET 310 is off). This state is illustrated in FIG. 4 from 20-100 milliseconds (mS). With regard to voltage 313 (the gate source voltage of MOSFET 310), after a transitory phase, in which voltage 313 drops with the addition of voltage supply 322 to a voltage value of the voltage value of voltage control 342 minus voltage supply 322 (voltage control 342-voltage 322), voltage 313 increases asymptotic to a voltage value as in graph 400. In other words, the voltage applied to parasitic capacitance 312 drops to control voltage 342 minus voltage 322, then rises asymptotic to a voltage.

[0030] Meanwhile, in system 300c, voltage 315 continues to increase asymptotic to the voltage value of voltage supply 322 such that parasitic capacitance 314 charges to the voltage value of voltage supply 322. This is shown by the rising asymptotic voltage 315 of graph 400. Simultaneously, voltage 317 drops to a negative value, as illustrated in graph 400.

[0031] System 300d of FIG. 3d is the equivalent circuit to system 300a when voltage supply 322 is connected to system 300a by switch 323 (more particularly, the source of MOSFET 310) and control voltage 342 is shorted to ground by switch 345, thereby removing the voltage of control voltage 342 from the gate of MOSFET 310. This state is illustrated in FIG. 4 from 100-160 milliseconds (mS). Since MOSFET 310 is an active control P-type FET, the control voltage is 342 is no longer applied to the gate of MOSFET 310, but is shorted to ground, MOSFET 310 turns on and a channel resistance 311 is formed between drain and source. As can be seen from graph 400, voltage 313 drops below zero and is asymptotic with a negative voltage value as the polarity of charge applied across parasitic capacitance 312 reverses as voltage supply 322 becomes the only voltage supply with the removal of control voltage 342 by shorting to ground.

[0032] Similarly, as can be seen from graph 400, voltage 315 drops below zero and is asymptotic with the negative voltage value as the polarity of charge applied across parasitic capacitance 314 reverses as voltage supply 322 becomes the only voltage supply with the removal of control voltage 342 by shorting to ground. As would be understood by one of skill in the art, due to the shorting of control voltage 342 to ground, parasitic capacitances (the parasitic capacitances of the gate of MOSFET 310) discharge with current flowing through resistor 346 to ground (resistor 344 being shorted to ground with control voltage 342). Consequently, as discussed above, the resistance value of resistor 346 controls the discharge of parasitic capacitances 312 and 314, and therefore helps control the voltage swings across the gate and source and the gate and drain of MOSFET 310.

[0033] As can be further seen from graph 400, voltage 317 rises from the negative voltage value to zero as MOSFET 310 turns on and the channel between the source and drain becomes active. The opening of the channel reduces parasitic capacitance 316 (between source and drain) to zero such that voltage 317 across parasitic capacitance 316 asymptotes to zero.

[0034] System 300e of FIG. 3e is the equivalent circuit to system 300a when voltage supply 322 is connected to system 300a by switch 323 (more particularly, the source of MOSFET 310) and control voltage 342 is not shorted to ground by switch 345, and therefore a voltage is applied to the gate of MOSFET 310. This state is illustrated in FIG. 4 from 160 milliseconds (mS) forth. Since MOSFET 310 is an active control P-type FET, and since control voltage is 342 is applied to the gate of MOSFET 310, and is no longer shorted to ground, MOSFET 310 is turning off and the channel between drain and source is fading. As can be seen from graph 400, voltage 317 drops below zero as the channel between source and drain fades, and parasitic capacitance 316 (between source and drain) forms which is negatively charged by the combination of control voltage 342 and voltage supply 322.

[0035] As can further be seen from graph 400, voltages 313 and 315 rise from the negative voltage value to asymp-